

Field Notes: February 2010

• Say's Phoebe says yes to spring • Red-shouldered Hawk: first one spotted in Mohawk Valley • Black Scoter: elusive diver found on coast • Wild Turkeys take to the trees at fairgrounds

The trend of warmer and drier than normal continued during February with some very spring-like days! As is normal this time of year, some of the early migrants have already arrived or have been seen moving through the area. Many more migrants should be arriving, and most of the wintering species should be leaving over the next couple of months.

WATERBIRDS

Greater White-fronted Goose (23)	Feb. 7	Eugene airport area	RR	A large flock for non-migration time
Greater White-fronted Goose (8)	Feb. 14	N. F. Siuslaw River	B&ZS	Not a normal wintering location
Tundra Swan (2)	Feb. 15	Deflation Plain	B&ZS	The last report for the area
Eurasian Wigeon (2)	Feb. 7	Kirk Pond	RR	Always a good location for this species
Eurasian Wigeon (2)	Feb. 8	Fiddle Creek	B&ZS	They've been here all winter.
Cinammon Teal	Jan. 2	Fiddle Creek	B&ZS	An early migrant?
Black Scoter	Jan. 3	Bob Creek	B&ZS	Not easy to find along the Lane County coast anymore
Horned Grebe	Jan./Feb.	Siuslaw River mouth	B&ZS	They haven't been seen this winter when they're normally common.
Clark's Grebe	Feb. 21	Siuslaw River mouth	B&ZS	Never common on the coast
Brown Pelican	Feb.	Florence area	DF,LC	Small numbers continued to be seen through the month
Green Heron (2)	Feb. 24	E. Regional Park	DS,etal	Wintering birds or early migrants?

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS, RAPTORS, & CRANES

Wild Turkey (20)	Feb. 22	Fairgrounds area	DT,EM	Roosting in trees for the first time in the neighborhood
Turkey Vulture	Feb.	Eugene/Springfield	m.ob.	Numerous reports during the last month; are they early migrants or just wintering birds moving around the area?
Osprey	Feb.	Willamette River	JC,AM	At least one has been seen near the river between Alton Baker Park & Marist H.S. most of the month.
Osprey	Feb. 23	Florence	B&ZS	Same bird seen on the Florence CBC?
Red-shouldered Hawk	Feb. 11	Mohawk Valley	LMO	First time this species has been seen in the Mohawk Valley

Sandhill Crane (50)	Feb. 16	Eugene	SMc	First flock seen during their northward migration and just a couple days earlier than avg. for the last 14 years
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PASSERINES

Band-tailed Pigeon	Feb. 28	S. of Eugene	MS	About a 1.5 weeks earlier than avg. for last 14 years, but right on schedule for last five years
Rufous Hummingbird	Feb. 19	S. of Florence	DF	A normal time for their arrival
Rufous Hummingbird	Feb. 19	Hendricks Park area	MP	Just a day earlier than avg. for last 11 years
Lewis's Woodpecker	Feb.	FRR – Royal Ave	m.ob.	They're still being seen in good numbers.
Black Phoebe (3)	Feb. 5	Waste Water Facility	JC	Becoming more widespread each year
Say's Phoebe	Feb. 19	N. Eugene	DS	A couple weeks earlier than avg. for the last 11 years
Horned Lark (3)	Feb. 22	Cantrell Rd	JHs	An area where they've been seen in the past
Tree Swallow (40)	Feb. 9	FRR – Royal Ave	JHn	Just a few days later than avg. for last 17 years
Orange-crowned Warbler	Feb. 5	Willamette River	JC	An overwintering bird—a few do each winter
Purple Finch (6)	Feb. 16	Cottage Grove	JD	The first ones seen since last fall

Abbreviations

East Regional Park, Cottage Grove (E. Regional Park), Eugene Waste Water Facility (Waste Water Facility), Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), many observers (m.ob.), North Fork of the Siuslaw River (N. F. Siuslaw River), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River deflation plain (deflation plain).

Thank you, contributors!

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